

F/AD

OCTOBER 15, 1979

MR ROBERT FABRIS
3626 MORRIE DR
SAN JOSE, CA 95127

DEAR MR FABRIS,

I HAVE JUST FINISHED RUNNING THROUGH ALL OF MY ISSUES OF "ARCADIAN", TYPING IN PROGRAMS, READING THE TUTORIALS, AND GENERALLY HAVING AN INTERESTING AND FUN TIME. I MUST SAY THAT THIS NEWSLETTER PROVIDES A MUCH NEEDED FORUM FOR THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION THAN DOES THE BALLY SUPPLIED MATERIALS.

IN RESPONSE TO THE SEVERAL DIFFERENT QUESTIONS YOU HAVE ASKED OF MEMBERS IN THE PAST MONTHS, BELOW ARE MY RESPONSES:

BALLY UNIT MODEL #: BA-1000-2

BALLY UNIT SERIAL#: ~~10651~~

TO THE KEYBOARD ADD-ON BY ARCADIAN DEVELOPMENT:

- 1) I WOULD EXPECT QUITE A BIT (NO PUN INTENDED) FROM A \$650 ADD-ON TO AN ALREADY \$400 UNIT.
- 2) I WOULD BE MORE WILLING TO SPEND \$350 FOR THE ADD-ON IF IT WERE EXPANDABLE
- 3) I WILL BE QUITE WILLING TO PAY \$350 FOR AN "ARCADIAN-CUSTOM" UNIT WITH THE DESCRIBED FEATURES PROVIDING THAT THERE WOULD BE EITHER VERY FULL TECHNICAL DOCUMENTATION OF THE SYSTEM OR MEMBER OPERATED "SERVICE CENTERS".

SOME QUESTIONS OF MY OWN ARE:

- 1) IN THE CHECKER GAME, EVEN WITH THE CORRECTION ON PAGE 47, MY PROGRAM CHEATS! I HAVE LISTED, CHECKED AND RE-CHECKED AND CANNOT FIND THE PROBLEM. WHEN THE COMPUTER'S PIECE IS BOXED INTO A CORNER, IT WILL MAKE AN ILLEGAL FIVE SPACE JUMP.(HELP!?) IF ANYONE ELSE HAS HAD THIS PROBLEM, PLEASE ADVISE.
- 2) DO YOU HAVE ANY SOURCE FOR THE 4572 (IC 1) or the 4503 (IC 5) IC's OF THE CASSETTE INTERFACE. I HAVE SEVERAL COMPONENT SOURCES IN THIS AREA, BUT NO ONE SEEMS TO HAVE ACCESS TO THESE CHIPS.
- 3) I WOULD BE WILLING TO REVIEW GAME AND EDUCATIONAL/BUSINESS PROGRAMS IF THERE HAVE BEEN NO OTHER OFFERS. IF DESIRED, I COULD ALSO PIT USER/COMPUTER TYPE PROGRAMS (i.e. CHESS, CHECKERS (NON-CHEATING), ETC.) AGAINST A TRS-80 AND/OR

W
HEATHKIT H-8 TO PROVIDE AN INTER-COMPUTER DIFFICULTY RATING.

ATTACHED IS A CHECK FOR \$5. ^{See bill} TO COVER THE COST OF TWO OF THE 50-PIN EXPANSION CONNECTORS YOU DESCRIBED ON PAGE 47.

I APOLOGIZE FOR THE PROLONGED SILENCE SINCE JOINING, AND I HOPE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MEMBER INPUT MORE AS THE TIME GOES BY. SO FAR THE MEMBERS HAVE SUPPLIED A WEALTH OF USEFUL INFORMATION AND I HOPE TO SEE MORE EXPANSION IN THE COMING MONTHS. I AM CURRENTLY ATTEMPTING TO DEVELOP SOME FORM OF CASSETTE UNIT CONTROL AND WILL KEEP YOU POSTED AS TO PROGRESS.

JUST FOR THE RECORD, I WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH SOME OF THE MORE BORING FACTS ABOUT MY PERSON SO YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE DEALING WITH:

^N
231 G Lebe 527-0444

I AM THE MANAGER OF THE BUCKINGHAM THEATRE IN ARLINGTON, VA. WE ARE (READY FOR THE PLUG?) PART OF THE "NEIGHBORHOOD THEATRES" CHAIN WHICH OWNS 37 THEATRES (43 SCREENS) IN THE STATE AND SURROUNDING WASHINGTON DC, METRO AREA. I HAVE BEEN WITH NEIGHBORHOOD FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS (STARTED AS AN USHER AT AGE 15), AND MY DESIRE FOR COMPUTER USAGE CAME FROM A MORE POWERFUL DESIRE TO ELIMINATE SOME OF THIS *¢)\$(PAPERWORK.

I AM CURRENTLY ASSEMBLEING A HEATHKIT H-11a (DEC PDP-11/03) TO HANDLE THE HEAVY STUFF, BUT WHEN THE PRICE OF THE H-8 DROPPED, I DECIDED TO LET TEMPTATION TAKE ITS COURSE AND I NOW HAVE A WORK TABLE FULL OF PARTS AND SPEND SEVERAL EVENINGS GOING, "WAS THAT A ...AH..".

MY PURCHASE OF THE BALLY UNIT WAS INTENDED TO ACT AS A REFRESHER MACHINE SINCE I HAD FORGOTTEN MOST OF MY HIGH-SCHOOL DATA PROCESSING. BUT WHEN I FOUND THAT THE CPU WAS THE SAME AS THE 'OL TRS-80, THERE AROSE A PERSONAL CHALLENGE TO TRY TO EXPAND THE LITTLE UNIT, WHICH EVENTUALLY LED ME TO "ARCADIAN". SO HERE I AM.

WHILE TYPING THIS, MY SEPT ISSUE HAS ARRIVED. ATTACHED IS A CHECK FOR \$15. ✓ TO COVER THE COMING YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION PLUS THE COST OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED CONNECTORS. IF POSSIBLE, I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE SOME OF THE INFORMATION YOU DESCRIBED ON THE KEYBOARD ADD-ON CURRENTLY UNDER DEVELOPMENT.

YOU MADE REFERENCE TO THE TWO CONTROLLER/WHITE CASE UNITS IN THE "SERIAL NUMBERS" SECTION OF THIS ISSUE. MY UNIT WAS PURCHASED FROM A MONTGOMERY WARD RETAIL STORE. IT IS IN BLACK PLASTIC WITH WALNUT TRIM, BUT ONLY HAS TWO CONTROLLERS.(?)

✓ ALSO ATTACHED TO THIS LETTER IS A CHECK FROM ONE OF MY EMPLOYEES, CHRIS BURRIS. THE CHECK (\$20.) IS TO COVER FOR THE COMING YEAR, PLUS THIS PAST YEAR'S COLLECTION. IF THE PAST YEAR COST IS ONLY THE INITIAL \$5, PLEASE FORWARD THE OTHER TECHNICAL INFO. AVAILABLE FOR THE REMAINING \$5. I WILL GET CHRIS TO SEND YOU HIS MODEL AND SERIAL NUMBERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

GOOD LUCK, AND LET'S KEEP MOVIN' FORWARD.

THANK,

ROBERT C LILLY

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SECOND SUBSCRIPTION SEND TO:

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